

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CIVIL AIR PATROL

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-6332

31 August 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR NATIONAL BOARD

SUBJECT: Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS)

- 1. After the last hurricane season it was determined that we needed to look into priority access for key members needing to use landline phone services during times of crisis or disaster. I asked the headquarters staff to research the option of limited CAP participation in the GETS program as a solution to this problem. If you are unfamiliar with the GETS program, please review the materials available at: https://ntc.cap.af.mil/ops/GETS/. It is now available to CAP, and we will begin taking advantage of this immediately so that we can be as prepared as possible for future disasters.
- 2. There is potential for CAP to be billed for usage. Therefore, this program must be strictly controlled to avoid abuse. CAP/DO and his staff will serve as the POC for CAP's participation in the GETS program. At this time, CAP/DO is directed to only allow CAP/CC's key advisors and staff, wing and region commanders, vice commanders, chiefs of staff, directors of operations and assistants, directors of emergency services and assistants, and other key staff members and incident commanders that wing and region commanders designate to participate. GETS cards will not be distributed to every member, even if they may deploy in support of a disaster. Commanders are encouraged to be selective in allowing personnel to participate in the GETS program. The NOC has a limited supply of stock cards on hand to support last minute emergency requests should they be necessary for personnel being deployed for a mission.
- 3. Personnel will apply for a GETS card online at the link noted in paragraph 1 above. Once an application is received, wing and region commanders or their designees will validate members applying for GETS cards via automated e-mails. Please contact CAP/DO to designate someone on your staff to validate requests if you so desire. Once validated, the CAP/DO and his staff will coordinate with the GETS program office to get a card directly to the validated members. The GETS program office has indicated that it can take two to three weeks to distribute cards, so we would encourage you to apply sooner rather than later to avoid potential problems during our peak operating season. To minimize the impact on you and your staff, and field these cards quickly, CAP/DO will assign GETS cards to all Wing and Region Commanders and members listed on the current Wing and Region Alert Rosters in WMIRS as of this date. CAP/DO will assume they are validated and use the member's CAPID as their password to use with their assigned GETS card when it arrives. If you feel there are members on your current alert roster that do not need GETS access, please notify CAP/DO immediately so that the member is removed from the list.
- 4. CAP/DO is required to validate usage of GETS cards with the program office on a monthly basis. So that this can be done in a timely manner, members who use their cards will advise CAP/DO of their usage as time allows during or immediately following a mission. A simple phone call or email will suffice. GETS cards will only be used for official business. Members and/or their wing or region will be responsible for any charges that are not directly attributable to an Air Force Assigned Mission.
- 5. CAP/DO is also required to annually review and validate the need for GETS cards that are fielded. Please be sure to notify CAP/DO when personnel change duty assignments and no longer need a GETS card so cards can be cancelled accordingly. CAP/DO will periodically perform spot checks on the database to see if there are potential problems, and to make reports

available to you to make your reviews easier.

6. If you have any questions in reference to this program, please feel free to contact CAP/DO at do@capnhq.gov, or if you have an emergency need for GETS access, contact the National Operations Center at 888-211-1812 or opscenter@capnhq.gov.

ANTONIO J. PINEDA Major General, CAP Commander

CC:

HQ CAP/EX/XP/MD/DO/FM/GC/EXI CAP Operations Committee Wing Administrators HQ CAP-USAF/CC/CV/XO/IG CAP-USAF LR/CCs State Directors